IAP9 Rec'd PCTIPTO 04 APR 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors:

Ryutaro YAMANAKA, et al.

Application No.:

New PCT National Stage Application

Filed:

April 4, 2006

For:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SEARCH SUPPORT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Copies of the art cited in the International Search Report (ISR), which issued by the JPO, are made available to the U.S. examiner in the national stage application, pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), and therefore copies of such art are not submitted herewith. The art cited in the ISR is listed on the attached PTO-1449 for an indication of consideration by the examiner. Copies of any other references listed on the PTO-1449, besides those cited in the ISR, are submitted herewith. JP '012 is discussed in the present application at page 2, line 11.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v.

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Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 4, 2006

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.06131

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL 10 1574579

Unassigned

New PCT Nat'l Stage Application

APPLICANT

Ryutaro YAMANAKA, et al.

FILING DATE April 4, 2006 GROUP

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.